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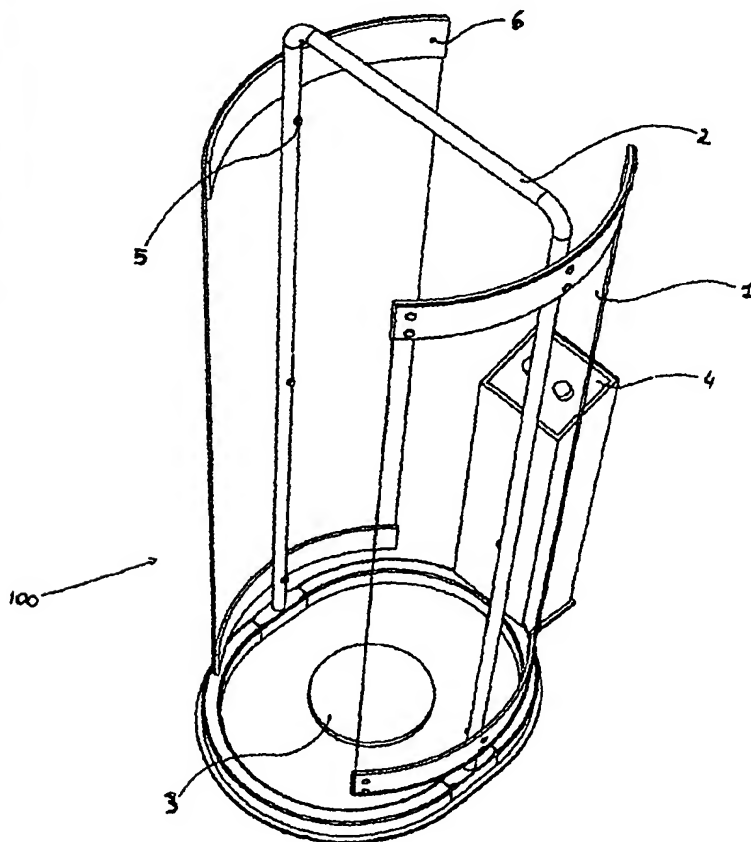
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PAINTING METHOD AND APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for painting animals and/or objects, using a coating paint product, characterized in that it has: at least one column-like upright member (2) at least one spray nozzle (5) fitted on said column-like upright member at least one tank (20) containing said paint liquid an electrically insulated, shower tray-like platform (3) at least a jet-containing wall (1), which is likely to be situated in front of said column-like upright member (2).



GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK,
TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,
ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/050104

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 B05B5/12 B05B15/12 B05B5/053 B05B1/30 A45D44/00
A45D44/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 B05B A45D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 387 081 B1 (COOPER TROY H) 14 May 2002 (2002-05-14) column 5, line 43 - line 67 claims; figures	1
X	EP 1 238 642 A (SPECTRUM PRODUCTS INC) 11 September 2002 (2002-09-11) the whole document	1
X	US 2003/000539 A1 (LAUGHLIN THOMAS J) 2 January 2003 (2003-01-02) paragraphs [0153] - [0172] paragraphs [0175] - [0201] paragraph [0206] claims; figures	1
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

30 July 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

02 11. 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP2004/050104

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 460 192 A (MCCLAIN EDWARD T) 24 October 1995 (1995-10-24) the whole document -----	1
A	WO 97/32558 A (SAENAN S A) 12 September 1997 (1997-09-12) the whole document -----	1
A	EP 0 523 961 A (UNILEVER PLC ; UNILEVER NV (NL)) 20 January 1993 (1993-01-20) the whole document -----	1
P,A	EP 1 314 374 A (HOLLYWOOD TANNING SYSTEM INC) 28 May 2003 (2003-05-28) the whole document -----	1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2004/050104

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-71

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

In view of the large number of dependent claims and also the wording of the claims presently on file, which render it difficult, if not impossible, to determine the matter for which protection is sought, the present application fails to comply with the clarity and conciseness requirements of Article 6 PCT (see also Rule 6.1(a) PCT) to such an extent that a meaningful search is impossible. The non-compliance with the substantive provisions is to such extent, that the search was performed taking into consideration the non-compliance in determining the extent of the search (PCT Guidelines, 9.19).

The search was based on claim 1, which appears to comprise a definition of what is understood to be the invention for which protection is sought.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-71

Apparatus with an upright having nozzles, a tank, a platform, and a wall.

2. claims: 72-76

Portable spray gun.

3. claims: 77-92

Method for spraying electrically charged particles

4. claims: 93-95

Method for locally spraying.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/050104

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